

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed September 10, 2004. In order to advance prosecution of this Application, Claims 1-4 and 7-13 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action in this Application.

The Abstract of the Disclosure stands objected to under M.P.E.P. §608.01(b) for not being of proper length. The Abstract of the Disclosure has been amended to address the length restrictions identified by the Examiner. For the convenience of the Examiner, attached herewith is a clean version of the amended Abstract of the Disclosure. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the Abstract of the Disclosure is in accordance with M.P.E.P. §608.01(b).

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nelson in view of Kauppi. Though Applicant disagrees with the rejection to these claims, Claims 1-3 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer so that the allowed claims can proceed to issuance.

Claims 4, 7-9, and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nelson in view of Kauppi and further in view of Koshima. Though Applicant disagrees with the rejection to these claims, Claims 4, 7-9, and 13 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer so that the allowed claims can proceed to issuance.

Claim 10 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nelson in view of Kauppi and further in view of Neyhart. Though Applicant disagrees with the rejection to this claim, Claim 10 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer so that the allowed claims can proceed to issuance.

Claim 11 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nelson in view of Kauppi and further in view of Sallen. Though Applicant disagrees with the rejection to this claim, Claim 11 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer so that the allowed claims can proceed to issuance.

Claim 12 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nelson in view of Kauppi and further in view of Cox. Though Applicant disagrees with the rejection to this claim, Claim 12 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer so that the allowed claims can proceed to issuance.

Applicant notes with appreciation the allowance of Claims 5, 6, and 14-29. With only allowed claims pending in this Application, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to issue a Notice of Allowance in this Application.

CONCLUSION

Applicant has now made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and full allowance of all pending claims.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,  
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